

## FOOD FOR THOUGHT *(continued)*

### **TAKING IT HOME**

1. Peter also narrated other letters to followers of Jesus living in the Roman Empire. Read what he says in his first letter in **1 Peter 1:3-9**.

- What stands out to you about these verses? Any observations?

- Initially, Peter deserted Jesus and fled. Later he faced many dark times - including being arrested and ultimately executed - but he never again allowed his fear to overcome his faith. What do you think changed in Peter after seeing Jesus resurrected?

- When you read these verses, what encourages you the most? What do you find the most challenging?

- What are one or two adjectives you'd use to describe these verses?

2. As you reflect on the talk from this weekend, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged you, or confused you?

3. What might God be asking you to do with this message? What is your next right step?

## MESSAGE NOTES

### **The Rest Of The Story // Week 6**

**Faith often deteriorates as \_\_\_\_\_ deteriorate.**

*Many in the crowd spread their garments on the road ahead of him, and others spread leafy branches they had cut in the fields. Jesus was in the center of the procession, and the people all around him were shouting, "Praise God! Blessings on the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessings on the coming Kingdom of our ancestor David! Praise God in the highest heaven!" So Jesus came to Jerusalem and went into the Temple. After looking carefully at everything, he left because it was late in the afternoon. Then he returned to Bethany with the twelve disciples. **Mark 11:8-11***

*When the leading priests and teachers of religious law heard what Jesus had done, they began planning how to kill him. But they were afraid of him because the people were so amazed at his teaching. **Mark 11:18***

*The religious leaders wanted to arrest Jesus because they realized he was telling the story against them, but they were afraid of the crowd, so they left him & went away. **Mark 12:12***

*"Teacher", they said, "We know how honest you are. You are impartial and don't play favorites. You teach the way of God truthfully. Now tell us - is it right to pay taxes to Caesar or not? Should we pay them, or shouldn't we?" Jesus saw through their hypocrisy and said, "Why are you trying to trap me? Show me a Roman coin, and I'll tell you." They brought the coin, and he asked them, "Whose image is this? And whose inscription?" "Caesar's" they replied. "Well then", Jesus said, "Give to Caesar what belongs to Caesar, & give to God what belongs to God." His reply completely amazed them. **Mark 12:14-17***

*As Jesus was leaving the Temple that day, one of his disciples said, "Teacher, look at these magnificent buildings! Look at the impressive stones in the walls." "Yes, look at these great buildings. But they will be completely demolished. Not one stone will be left on top of another!" **Mark 13:1-2***

**Something \_\_\_\_\_ than the temple has arrived.**

*As they were eating, Jesus took some bread and blessed it. Then he broke it in pieces and gave it to the disciples, saying, "Take it, for this is my body." And he took a cup of wine and gave thanks to God for it. He gave it to them, and they all drank from it. And he said to them, "This is my blood, which confirms the new covenant between God and his people. It is poured out as a sacrifice for many." **Mark 14:22-24***

*"Am I some dangerous revolutionary, that you come with swords and clubs to arrest me? Why didn't you arrest me in the Temple? I was there among you teaching every day." Then all his disciples deserted him and ran away. **Mark 14:48-50***

**God is \_\_\_\_\_, even when we don't feel it!**

## PERSONAL NOTES

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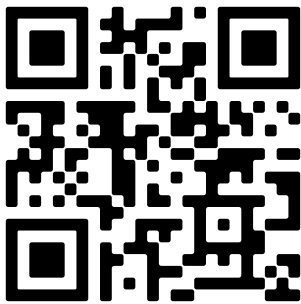
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“Be doers of the word and not hearers only...” *James 1:22*



## FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Many of our Groups are currently in session. We encourage you to take these questions home with you and **WRITE DOWN YOUR ANSWERS.** Use it for personal study, or with your Group!

### GETTING TO KNOW YOU

1. Peter tells us that when Jesus was arrested, all of his disciples “deserted” him and fled. Using that language, have you ever “deserted” faith and fled? Why or why not?

2. Why do you think our faith has a tendency to rise and fall with circumstances? Did you come to faith in the midst of GOOD times or BAD times?

### DIGGING DEEPER

1. Read **Mark 14:43-50.**

- What stands out to you about Jesus’ arrest? Any observations?

- Why do you think all of Jesus’ disciples deserted him and fled?

- In what ways does Jesus’ response to the soldiers reveal his character?